

From: jc.rodriguez@law360.com
Sent: 4/9/2012 1:24:16 PM

To: "Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA" <White.Terri-A@epamail.epa.gov>
CC:
Subject: Re: natural gas drilling/water wells report

Hello Ms. White, thanks for sending this information to me. As a layperson, I don't really understand the spreadsheet, so I'm going to ask some probably pretty basic questions about it.

1. How many wells were tested in this report?
2. Where are the wells located?
3. Were dangerous levels of contamination found in any of the wells from this round of testing?
4. Was any contamination found at all, and if so, what was it? (I am looking at the paragraph of the AP story that says "Three of the newly tested wells showed methane while one showed barium well above the EPA's maximum level, but a treatment system installed in the well is removing the substance, an EPA spokesman said.")
5. How many homes is the EPA still providing drinking water to where prior tests showed contamination? And what the contamination in those homes' water?
6. Were the test results released April 4 part of the first round of testing?
7. Is the first round of testing done? If so, how many well tests were done, total?
8. Is there any more testing planned? If so, how many more well tests are planned?
9. Is there any type of general comment or statement the EPA wishes to make about the latest results?
10. Is there anything else you can think of I should mention in the story?

Thank you very much,

Juan Carlos

On Mon, Apr 9, 2012 at 11:56 AM, Terri-A White <White.Terri-A@epamail.epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Juan,

I just listened to your vm; didn't realize you had sent an email too. Here is EPA's latest statement and info on home well sampling in Dimock, PA. -- Terri

EPA has completed and shared with residents and Pennsylvania state officials the second set of sampling at 20 private drinking water wells in Dimock, Pennsylvania. This set of sampling did not show levels of contaminants that would give EPA reason to take immediate action. EPA remains committed to providing Dimock residents with the best available data and information on the quality of drinking water as expeditiously as possible.

For more information on the sampling results, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/states/pa.html>

From: Juan Carlos Rodriguez <jc.rodriguez@law360.com>

To: Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Larry Jackson/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Terri White/R4/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 04/09/2012 10:48 AM

Subject: natural gas drilling/water wells report

Hey, I was wondering if would be possible to get this stuff today please?

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Juan Carlos Rodriguez <jc.rodriguez@law360.com>

Date: Fri, Apr 6, 2012 at 4:36 PM

Subject: natural gas drilling/water wells report

To: white.terri-a@epa.gov

Hello, my name is Juan Carlos Rodriguez and I'm a reporter at Law360. I'm trying to match the AP story below, so I'd like to get my hands on the report that is mentioned so I can write my own article.

Sorry for the late in the day nature of this email, but I just saw the story. If you can let me know about getting the report, I'd sure appreciate it.

Thanks,

Juan Carlos

AP story:

Testing at 20 more water wells in a northeastern Pennsylvania community at the center of a debate over the safety of natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale shows no dangerous levels of contamination, according to a report issued Friday by the [Environmental Protection Agency](#).

The EPA had already tested 11 wells in Dimock, showing the presence of sodium, methane, chromium or bacteria in six of the wells before the results of the latest round of testing.

Three of the newly tested wells showed methane while one showed barium well above the EPA's maximum level, but a treatment system installed in the well is removing the substance, an EPA spokesman said.

Featured in the documentary Gasland, the Susquehanna County village of Dimock has been at the center of a fierce debate over drilling, in particular the process of hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. The process involves injecting a mixture of water and chemicals deep under ground to free trapped natural gas so it can be brought to the surface. State environmental regulators previously determined that Houston-based Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. contaminated the aquifer underneath homes along Carter Road in Dimock with explosive levels of methane gas, although they later determined the company had met its obligation to provide safe drinking water to residents.

The EPA is still providing drinking water to three homes where prior tests showed contamination. A second round of test is under way, regulators said.

A group of Dimock residents suing Cabot assert their water is also polluted with drilling chemicals, while others say that the water is clean and the plaintiffs are exaggerating problems with their wells to help their lawsuit. A Cabot spokesman did not immediately return an email seeking comment on the EPA's findings.

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